

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

IB2004/051583

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G01R33/389

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G01R

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| X | US 6 294 913 B1 (R.S. HINKS ET AL) 25 September 2001 (2001-09-25) cited in the application column 5, line 1 - column 7, line 13 figure 3 | 1-18 |
| X | EP 1 178 327 A (GE MED SYS GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY) 6 February 2002 (2002-02-06) column 2, line 52 - column 3, line 17 column 6, line 45 - column 7, line 41 column 8, line 6 - column 9, line 54 figure 4 | 1-18 |
| X | EP 1 143 258 A (GE MED SYS GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY) 10 October 2001 (2001-10-10) column 1, line 38 - column 2, line 54 column 3, line 35 - column 5, line 2 | 1-18 |
| | -/-- | |



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

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P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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B document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

3 January 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

19/01/2005

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| C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| X | PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2003, no. 07, 3 July 2003 (2003-07-03) & JP 2003 061927 A (GE MEDICAL SYSTEMS GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY CO LLC), 4 March 2003 (2003-03-04) abstract ----- | 1, 11, 15 |
| X | PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2002, no. 05, 3 May 2002 (2002-05-03) & JP 2002 017706 A (HITACHI MEDICAL CORP), 22 January 2002 (2002-01-22) abstract ----- | 1, 11, 15 |

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